

*Handed over to
P.R. of Cuba Today
at 4:30 p.m. Jb
2/11*

CVN/nt

21 November 1962

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

I shall be grateful if you would be so good as to transmit the following message to Prime Minister Fidel Castro Ruz:

"I have the honour to acknowledge with gratitude the receipt of Your Excellency's message dated 19 November 1962 that you were good enough to send me through the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations. I note that in this letter you have stated that 'the IL-28 medium bombers stationed on Cuban territory' are the 'property of the Soviet Government' and that 'if the Soviet Government considers it desirable for the smooth conduct of the negotiations and the solution of the crisis to withdraw these planes, the Revolutionary Government of Cuba will not object to this decision'. I believe that this statement of the position of your Government has significantly contributed to the solution of the crisis.

"At the same time I note that you 'are prepared sincerely to consider a broad solution which will resolve the present tension once for all'. I welcome this declaration and I hope that we may continue to keep in touch through Ambassador Lechuga. If at any time you feel that direct contact with me is desirable and could be useful, I am at your service."

Yours sincerely,

U Thant
Acting Secretary-General

His Excellency Sr. Carlos Lechuga
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Cuba to the
United Nations
155 East 44th Street, 31st floor
New York 17, N.Y.

cc - Miss Platz